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THE Tryal, Condemnation, and EXECUTION OF THREE WITCHES,

VIZ.

TEMPERACE FLOYD,
MARY FLOYD,
AND
SUSANNA EDWARDS.

Who were Arraigned at *Exeter* on the 18*th*. of *August*, 1682. And being prov'd Guilty of Witch-Craft, were Condemn'd to be Hang'd, which was accordingly Executed in the view of many Spectators, whose strange and much to be lamented Impudence, is never to be forgotten.

Also, how they Confessed what Mischiefs they had done, by the assistance of the Devil, who lay with the above-named *Temperance Floyd* Nine Nights together. *Also*, how they Squeezed one *Hannah Thomas* to death in their Arms; How they also caused several Ships to be cast away, causing a Boy to fall from the top of a Main-Mast into the Sea.

With many Wonderful Things, worth your Reading.

Printed for *J. Deacon*, at the sign of the *Rainbow*, a little beyond St. *Andrews* Church, in *Holborn*, 1682.

BRITISH MUSEUM

The Tryal, Condemnation, and Execution of three Witches, who were Arraigned at *Exeter* on the 18*th.* of *Auguſt*, 1682.

LEt not my aſſertions ſeem ſtrange to the Ingenious Reader, who ſeems to affirm this (by ſome incredulous) Story, concerning the ſubſequent matter; nor will I trouble you with a long Prologue, to ſtir you to believe that which ſo many Letters have verified, concerning the matter in hand, but ſo it was.

THe Aſſizes being held at *Exon*, (alias) *Exeter*, on the 18*th* of *Auguſt*, 1682. It happened that there was three Perſons Arraigned for Witch-Craft, whoſe Names take as followeth, (*viz.*) *Temperance Floyd*, *Mary Floyd*, and *Suſannah Edwards*, all dwelling in one Town, in the aforeſaid County of *Devon*, namely *Bideford*, by ſome call'd *Bythford*, all three being ſtricken in years, which might have taught them more Grace; but Man's Enemy, Souls deſtroyer, and the Author of Wickedneſs, ſo prevailed with them. that they made an Interchange, accepting a Hell for a Heaven, rather willing to pleaſe the Devil then the great Creator, whoſe ſmiles are more precious then refined Gold, the loſs of whoſe love is no leſs then Evetlaſting Deſtruction. Theſe I ſay, theſe poor ſouls (aiming at nothing but ruine) imbrace Folly inſtead

of Wisdom, present pleasure for eternal pain; take Flames for Crowns, misery for happiness, change God for a Devil, and a Soul for Hell. It is much to be lamented, that these persons should take delight in nothing more then to converse with Divils, who reason tells, seeks nothing but Destruction, Gods dishonour, Mans overthrow (to, if it were possible) empty Heaven and fill Hell.

I come now to the Particulars, the aforesaid persons whose names are already inserted, came to their Tryal, having been some time before accused of VVitchcraft, and for that cause Imprisoned; when they came to the Bar their Indictment was read, and though the Devil had so much power over them, yet had they not Impudence enough to deny what they there were accused for: Intemperate *Temperance Floyd* who was the eldest of the three, pleaded to her Indictment, and owned the Accusation, acknowledging she had been in League with the Devil 20. years and upwards, and that in the term of those years she had been guilty of many Cruelties, and by Hellish power afflicted both Man and Beast; but now to the other Two who were Instructed in that Damnable Art of VVitch-craft by the afore-named *Temperance Floyd*, they acknowledg'd that they had served five years to her to learn her accursed Art, and during the Term of those years they saw and were acquainted with many wonderful and unlawful Tricks. For they owned that they had not been idle in their Hellish practices, but had served him faithfully, who will reward them gratefully for their Diabolical Indulgence. VVe have an account of some

of

of their Wicked, Inhumane, Accursed, Damnable, and Preposterous Actions: But let us chiefly mind the Eldest and worst of these Three, namely, *Temperance Floyd*. Let her be the subsistance of our matter, who was the introducer and cause of the other Two's overthrow. These Wicked Wretches being all of one mind, at last began to exercise their Diveliish Arts, and upon one Mr. *Hann* a Minister in those parts; a person of good Repute and honest Conversation, who sought his souls eternal happiness, while they design'd their everlasting Ruine. These Hellish Agents intended mischief and misery to the person of Mr. *Hann*: but the Over-ruling Power prevented them; but because they could not be suffered to exercise their Diabolicism upon his body, they thought they would be some other way Reveng'd; so Witch like, they laid their Diabolical Charms upon his Cattle, so that those Cows that used to give Milk, when they came to be Milked they gave blood, to the great astonishment of the Milkers; but finding themselves Out casts from everlasting Happiness, they grew insolent in their Cursed Conceits, resolving to make use of that Art which they should so dearly pay for; But I too much insist upon the Old Hag whose Cruelties are and were sufficiently manifested by her own Confession at her Tryal, the other Two Witches being somewhat younger then the Old Shape of Prince Lucifer, who acknowledged themselves to have been servants to the Old one for five Years, and learn'd the Art and Mistery of Hellish, Damnable, Accursed, and most to be

Lamented

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Lamented Witch-Craft, and in the term of those 5 years grew to be as dexterious as their Deviliſh Tutor, trying their Experiments upon Man and Beaſt, to the Injury of both; but the Old one Confeſſed plainly that ſhe had cauſed ſeveral Ships at Sea to be Caſt away, to the loſs of many mens lives, and the prejudice of many others: She confeſſed alſo that the Devil lay Carnally with her for Nine Nights together, and that ſhe had Paps about her an Inch long, which the Devil uſ'd to ſuck to Provoke her to Letchery: but the other two ſeemed to be more Penſive then ſhe, for they confeſſed that ſhe was the Introducer of their Miſery, and that they had ſerved both the Devil and her five years ſlavery, to underſtand the ready way to everlaſting Deſtruction. But Heavens Vengeance never fails to follow ſuch Offenders who do wickedly, preſumptuouſly, and prophanely, make uſe of the Devil to ſatisfie their Impious Wills. But to proceed, this Old Witch whoſe name was *Temperance Floyd*, was without doubt perfectly Reſolute, not minding what ſhould become of her Immortal Soul, but rather Impudently ar, as well as after her Tryal, ſo Audacious, that ſhe had done many wicked Exploits by the power (not virtue) of her Helliſh Diſcipline; She confeſſed that ſhe had been Inſtrumental to the Death of ſeveral, namely, one *Hannah Thomas* by pretence of Love, Squeezing her in her Arms ſo long till the blood guſhed out of her mouth; ſhe confeſſed that ſhe and the other two had been the Death of Two more, beſides ſeveral others that they had Lamed by their Helliſh Art; they confeſſed that they had been the Deſtruction

on of many Cattle both small and great, and many more things too tedious to relate; being asked at their Tryal to say the Lords Prayer, they answered, that they could not, except it were backward, they said that the Devil used to be with them on nights in several Shapes, sometimes like a Hound, who Hunted before them (but without doubt he Hunted for Souls.) There was many more Accusations laid against them, which they all owned (except one) which was about causing a Ship to be Sunk, and a Boy that fell from the Top-Mast of another Ship and so broke his Neck, or as some say, Drowned in the Sea.

It being asked how long they had been in league with the Divel, one of them said twenty-years she had been his Familiar Acquaintance, the other two were of lesser standing, but long enough to Ruine their Precious Souls. They also Asserted, that the Devil came with them to the Prison Door, and there left them, much like what he is, the Author of Lies, the Inventer of Mischief, the Betrayer of Souls, the unsatisfied deceiver, and Gods Enemy.

All these things being Confessed by their own Tongues, it is not strange to think that Judgement past upon them regularly in such Cases.

But now to proceed;

As to the manner of their Deportment going to the place of Execution. It is certainly affirmed

ed the Old Witch *Temperance Floyd*, went all the way Eating, and was seemingly unconcerned; but *Mary Floyd* was very obstinate, and would not go, but lay down, insomuch that they forc'd to tye her upon a Horse-back, for she was very loath to receive her deserved Doom: But when they came to the place of Execution, they desired the Minister to pray for them, and that part of the 40*th* Psalm might be sung, which was accordingly done, and presently after the Executioner did his Office.

Thus have you heard of the Wicked life and miserable death of three gross Offenders, who slighted Gods Commandements, despis'd a Christ and imbrac'd a Devil, lost Heaven to purchase Hell, at the dear rate of their Immortal Souls: Let this then be a Caution for all Sinners to forsake Sin and Satan, whose end and design is to ruine Souls, to enslave Mortals, and without doubt were it possible, to pull Gods Almighty Majesty out of his Everlasting *Throne*. 'Tis great pity that some have so little esteem of their Jewels which Jesus Christ the Son of the Almighty, purchased at so dear a rate; yet vild Sinners, never call to mind, or at least very seldom, what Labyrinths of misery they involve themselves in, how they crush Christ, how they wound his already wounded side for sinners: But now to conclude, take a poor Sinners advice, Walk uprightly and Justly, and let not the fruition of present injoyments, cause you to neglect Eternal Happiness, the injoyment of which, is beyond Expression, and the loss thereof Eternal Misery, Destruction, and Ruine.

FINIS.

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